



## **Brownfields 2011 Cleanup Grant Fact Sheet Valley, AL**

### **EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country cleanup and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### **Community Description**

The City of Valley was selected to receive two brownfields cleanup grants. Valley (population 9,198) is located on the banks of the Chattahoochee River, a major resource for the city. Since the 1860s, Valley's economy had been dependent upon the textile industry. With the relocation of the industry in the late 1990s and early 2000s, Valley began losing jobs. Today, all six area textile mills are closed. Since 2003, about 3,028 of the 3,949 jobs lost in Chambers County have been from Valley. The city's revenue stream is based entirely on sales tax in the city and licensing fees. Both of these sources have fallen significantly each year since 2008. Cleanup of the Langdale and Riverdale Mill sites will help the city develop a tourism-based economy that will generate jobs and improve the tax base. Once the sites are cleaned up, the city is expected to build on the progress already made at the sites and attract developers, investors, and additional incubator businesses to the mill buildings.

### **Cleanup Grants**

*\$165,000 for hazardous substances*

EPA has selected the City of Valley for two brownfields cleanup grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the Langdale Mill property at 5910 19th Street. Built in the 1860s, this textile mill operated until 2004. Today, parts of the mill are being used for storage, office facilities, and a new green incubator business. Contaminants of concern at the site include metals and inorganic contaminants. Grant funds also will be used to clean up the Riverdale Mill property at 50 Middle Street. Built in the 1860s, the textile mill ended its industrial uses in the mid-to-late 1990s. A light manufacturing company leases a section of the mill site. Contaminants of concern include metals and inorganic contaminants. Grant funds also will be used to continue the charrettes, workshops, and public meetings that have been ongoing since 2005.

### **Contacts**

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 4 Brownfields Team  
(404) 562-8792  
EPA Region 4 Brownfields Web site  
(<http://www.epa.gov/region4/waste/bf>)

Grant Recipient: City of Valley, AL  
(334) 756-5220

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.